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The X factor

New CBC series, X Company, delves into real Canadian spy stories. PAGE 11

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The RM of St. Andrews is working with the owner of Skinner's Wet 'n Wild in Lockport to have the deserted water park torn down.
SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Time limited for Wet 'n Wild

Water park. Mayor of St. Andrews wants slides demolished, but owners proving slippery

SHANE GIBSON
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It's been years since anything wet or wild happened at Skinner's Wet 'n Wild in Lockport. Now the Rural Municipality of St. Andrews is working with its owners to get the deserted water park torn down.

"Let's face it: it's just sitting there and rotting," said Mayor George Pike of the waterslide-park-turned-eyesore that's been closed for a decade. "For about five or six years now, it's been on the list to get it taken down."

As well as looking unsightly, Pike said his municipality is worried someone could get hurt after breaking into the fenced-off site. But the seven-storey slides haven't been bulldozed because, for a long time, the RM was unable to track down the landowners.

Pike said the land the park sits on has changed hands several times since it closed. It was only recently that the current owner was tracked down in British Columbia.

That owner wants to develop the land, and Pike is hopeful a project currently underway to bring sewers to Lockport will motivate the owner to demolish the slides soon.

"(The owner) said he'd be in Manitoba and get in touch with us in the next month or so," said Pike, who added that if a deal can't be worked out, the RM ultimately has the power to order it demolished. "We can take him to court … but we want to work with the landlords because that's even better for everybody."

Pike said the RM will work with the owner to come up with a timeline for the demolition process. He couldn't say exactly when the slides will come down.

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Icebreaking machines get down to work on Red River

Flood prevention.
Crews will work 24 hours a day to finish by mid-March, breaking 30 kms of ice along the way

SHANE GIBSON
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In a sure sign that someone in the province thinks spring will happen this year, media were invited to a frigid spot north of Selkirk on Tuesday to watch as Manitoba's icebreaking machines took to the Red River to start their annual flood-prevention work.

"Once again the Manitoba Amphibex team will lead an important part of our overall flood-fighting effort to reduce ice-jam-related flooding on the north Red," said Premier Greg Selinger in a release. "We have seen how quickly ice-jam-related flooding can develop, and the icebreaking machines and personnel will cut a path for river ice to move.

"This will mean added security and peace of mind for the residents upstream."

The province's Amphibex icebreaking machines took to the Red River at Breezy Point Tuesday to start their annual flood-prevention work. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Ice-cutting machines have been busy creating a grid pattern so the province's four 24-ton Amphibex machines can break the ice and keep it from jamming.

The machines start at Breezy Point and break about 30 kilometres of ice down the centre of the river before the thaw.

Selinger said a crew of 30 will work in shifts 24 hours a day to make sure the work is done by mid March. He said ice-fishing communities in the machine's path toward Selkirk would get about two weeks' notice to move their shacks out of the way.

Manitoba's first flood outlook is expected during the last week of February. Despite the ice in the Amphibex's path being about 20 per cent thicker than it was last year, early estimates from the province call the flood risk low.

On the road

The icebreakers can be transported by heavy truck to other areas of the province if ice-jam issues develop on other rivers.
SOURCE: PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

Selinger pulls ahead in NDP leadership race

Premier Greg Selinger
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Premier Greg Selinger has surpassed his two rivals in the fight for delegate support prior to next month's NDP leadership vote.

Selinger captured all 117 delegates during a party meeting in Winnipeg's Maples constituency on the weekend, giving him 258 so far.

On Monday he sent a tweet saying the win was a "great birthday present."

Former cabinet minister Theresa Oswald, who did not compete in the Maples, is second with 208 delegates.

Steve Ashton, the third contender, has 177 but stresses there's still a long way to go before the leadership election on March 8 at a convention in Winnipeg.

He's expected to grab most of the northern constituencies, which carry a large number of delegates who will use mail-in ballots to vote.

Oswald has announced that Michael Balagus, a longtime NDP strategist and chief of staff for former premier Gary Doer, will help run her 2016 election campaign if she wins.

Balagus ran the NDP campaign in 2011 when Selinger was re-elected with a record number of seats in the legislature.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conservation

Province talks trees at boreal forest summit

The province organized a summit in northern Manitoba on Tuesday to talk trees.

Called the Boreal Summit, the event brought stakeholders, including indigenous communities, to the table to talk about how to best manage one of the last pristine boreal forests in the world.

The summit happened at the Kikiwak Inn on the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, where they discussed how to manage data and information, the co-ordination of planning, jobs and keeping the boreal forest environmentally clean.

A poll released last week showed Manitobans are overwhelmingly in favour of preserving as much of the forest as possible.

"The development of a meaningful and effective strategy for the North must include First Nation perspectives," said Chief Ron Evans of Norway House Cree Nation.

"I am pleased to see the inclusion of aboriginal and First Nation participants in this summit." METRO

Philanthropy

Manitoba is Canada's most charitable province again

We 'Tobans like to help people.

Manitoba is once again the country's most charitable province, with 25.3 per cent of taxpayers declaring a charitable donation on their 2013 tax return, according to Statistics Canada. This is the second year in a row that Manitoba, Prince Edward Island (24.1 per cent) and Saskatchewan (23.4 per cent) led the pack in charitable giving.

Across Canada, $8.6 billion was claimed in charitable giving, with Manitoba seeing an increase of 0.7 per cent over 2012. METRO

Health. Canada's Arctic compares poorly globally

A long-running study concludes that the well-being of northerners in Canada's increasingly urban Arctic compares poorly with people in other circumpolar regions.

The second Arctic Human Development Report, released Tuesday, says northern Canadians rank at best in the middle of the pack when it comes to infant mortality, tuberculosis, fatal accidents, homicide or suicide.

"Canada is not doing as well as other areas in certain dimensions," lead author Gail Fondahl said Tuesday.

But Canada leads in other ways, said Fondahl, a professor at the University of Northern British Columbia.

"Canada is leading the world in some things like innovative governance structures that allow for local participation."

The Arctic report is a follow-up to one released in 2004. It was funded by a wide array of international bodies and will be presented to the Arctic Council before its upcoming meeting in April.

It attempts to compare the Arctic regions of Canada, the United States, Russia, Greenland, Iceland, Scandinavia and regions such as the Faroe Islands.

In general, the study concludes that health is strongest in Nordic countries such as Norway and Finland, where there is little difference between north and south or indigenous and non-indigenous.

In North America's Western Arctic — Alaska, Yukon and the Northwest Territories — health is comparable to or better than the national average. But aboriginal people fare significantly worse.

Greenland and Nunavut, where more than 85 per cent of the population is Inuit, show much poorer health status than their respective national averages.

The Russian Arctic consistently fares the worst.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Canada is not doing as well as other areas in certain dimensions."

University of Northern B.C. professor Gail Fondahl, lead author of the second Arctic Human Development Report

Swan River

Man charged in Valentine's Day stabbing incident

A Swan River man is facing charges in connection to a Valentine's Day stabbing.

Mounties were called on Saturday to a business in Swan River, where a man had been found with a puncture wound to the right side of his chest. The man was taken to hospital in Winnipeg, where he is currently in stable condition.

Matthew Stanley Cook, 32, has been charged with aggravated assault and failing to comply with a probation order.

Swan River is about 500 kilometres northwest of Winnipeg.

METRO

Expropriations get committee green light

Infrastructure. Land purchase for Transitway, the Pembina underpass and Cockburn-Calrossie sewer move on

BERNICE PONTANILLA
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The expropriation of land for the second phase of rapid transit, the Pembina underpass and the Cockburn-Calrossie combined sewer got the blessing of a city committee on Tuesday.

City officials and former mayoral candidate David Sanders appeared before a special meeting of the property and development committee to argue their cases for and against, respectively, the expropriation of the lands, including parcels that the city owned before 2009.

Sanders questioned why officials had sold off land the city would eventually come to need for these projects, why officials didn't make an expropriation cost estimate public and why reports he's requested continue to be denied to him, he says, on "discretionary" grounds.

"It is about time someone threw a wrench in the gears of this civic juggernaut," said Sanders.

Diane Sacher, director of Winnipeg's water and waste department, said that specifically for the Cockburn-Calrossie project, conceptual designs created for a May 2010 report didn't take into account a necessary retention pond.

It wasn't until August of 2012, added Sacher, that the need for a pond to stop basement flooding in the area became evident.

Committee chairman Coun. John Orlikow (River Heights-Fort Garry) said that while it's "unfortunate" that the city was buying land back, they have no other choice.

"It was a professional organization that did it; they had the concept plan. But, as we learned in 2012, that concept was not really doable," Orlikow told reporters following the afternoon meeting.

As for the second phase of rapid transit, now called the Southwest Transitway, and the Pembina Highway underpass project, a total of 35 properties will need to be expropriated. City officials said negotiations are ongoing and expropriations for some may be avoided.

Director of Winnipeg Transit Dave Wardrop said a 4.4-kilometre strip of land had a buy-back clause of $17,000 per acre when it was sold, meaning that the fixed cost will come into play when the city re-purchases it. Wardrop also said a 2012 report pegged the cost of the land expropriations for the Southwest Transitway at $8 million.

The two expropriation reports now move on to executive policy committee and, if approved there, will go to city council for final approval.

Coun. John Orlikow called the decision to buy land back in some of the cases "unfortunate" but necessary.
BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Quoted

"How do you get that much assurance at a concept stage without investing a huge amount of money in it that may not turn out?"

Coun. John Orlikow

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The city is in need of an ethics commissioner, says councillor

City hall. Coun. Ross Eadie renews push for position, had presented January motion to look into how other areas approached the issue

BERNICE PONTANILLA
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A city councillor is turning his attention to the pursuit of an ethics commissioner for Winnipeg after seeing "progress" on a lobbyist registry.

Coun. Ross Eadie told Metro he plans to ask Mayor Brian Bowman during the Feb. 25 city-council meeting about the status of a previous push for an ethics commissioner.

A dispute over an ethics commissioner arose under former mayor Sam Katz, with Katz and the city's legal department saying a change to the charter was required. However, the Manitoba government asserted the city in fact had the power to create such an office.

"I think I'm going to move ... to have an ethics commissioner established under the auditor's office," said Eadie.

"In the meantime, they're looking at how can a lobbyist registry work, what is the best model and so on."

Quoted

"I think I'm going to move ... to have an ethics commissioner established under the auditor's office."

Coun. Ross Eadie, on an idea first raised during former mayor Sam Katz's time in office

Coun. Ross Eadie makes his push for a lobbyist registry during the Feb. 11 executive policy committee meeting. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Eadie appeared before the executive policy committee last Wednesday regarding the lobbyist registry, which the governance committee sent to the auditor for a report.

He expressed concern that the city's legal and clerks department should be handling the lobbyist registry. However, a representative of legal services confirmed their involvement in the process.

He also hopes the registry will cover both the political and administrative sides.

Eadie's original motion, which Coun. Jenny Gerbasi seconded and was presented at the Jan. 28 meeting, suggests that the city look at what has been done in other jurisdictions, such as Toronto and Quebec.

It also called for a report back to council "no later than" Oct. 1 on what options they have.

311 audit shows people on hold longer for information

An audit shows Winnipeggers are waiting longer on the phone to get information about various city services.

The report says the average wait after dialling the 311 Contact Centre during the first six months of 2013 was one minute, 45 seconds — up more than 20 seconds from the previous year.

When the 311 service was launched in 2009, the city wanted 80 per cent of calls to be answered within 30 seconds, but the audit says that target is unrealistic.

It found the standard was only met 22 per cent of the time and estimates it would take another 20 customer-service representatives to achieve that goal.

There were 67 representatives on staff when the audit was done.

The findings will be presented to the city's executive policy committee later this week.

In 2013, the 311 centre handled about 1.6 million calls. Of those, 44 per cent were related to transit, and most dealt with bus schedules.

The audit recommends using interactive voice response technology to route calls for schedules to the proper channel so staff can be freed to handle other centre business. It suggests this would make wait-time targets more manageable.

The city's 311 app might be a better way to go if you're looking for information from the city. METRO FILE

Inquiries relating to the Water and Waste department account for 17 per cent of all calls, which mostly regard garbage pickup. Around 11 per cent are for Public Works and deal primarily with street maintenance.

The yearly budget for 311 was just under $5 million in 2013. The service was over budget that year by $218,000 because of an increase in calls related to discoloured water and recycling collection. The cost per minute in 2012 worked out to 68 cents.

GLOBAL WINNIPEG/
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Anti-petroleum activists a possible threat: Mounties

The RCMP has identified "anti-petroleum" protesters as a potential security threat, fuelling concerns in Parliament that tough new anti-terror powers will be misused to target environmentalists, aboriginals and critics of the government's economic agenda.

Prepared by the RCMP's critical infrastructure intelligence team, the threat assessment dated Jan. 24, 2014 says: "There is a growing, highly organized and well-financed anti-Canadian petroleum movement that consists of peaceful activists, militants and violent extremists, who are opposed to society's reliance on fossil fuels."

The document predicts as pipeline and hydraulic-fracturing operations expand across Canada, "criminal activity associated to the anti-petroleum movement will increase nationally" and calls such extremists "a realistic criminal threat." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quebec

Education minister defends strip search of teen girl

Quebec's education minister is under fire for defending high school officials who strip-searched a 15-year-old female student they suspected of selling drugs — an incident that has shocked some but appears to be well within the bounds of Canadian law.

Yves Bolduc said the province's schools have guidelines setting out how and when education officials can bypass police and order students to submit their clothing to a rigorous search.

"It's a question of security," Bolduc told the Quebec legislature in response to a report in the Journal de Montreal. The girl and her mother told the newspaper that school official have been carrying out searches regularly based on a belief that she was selling drugs to other students. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A 'very unusual' case

Halifax. Two suspects accused in alleged mall shooting plot make first court appearances

HALEY RYAN
Metro in Halifax

From left: Lindsay Souvannarath, from Geneva, Ill., and Randall Steven Shepherd, from Halifax, appeared in provincial court Tuesday morning. The suspects face charges of conspiracy to commit murder, among others. PHOTOS: THE CANADIAN PRESS

The man and woman accused of plotting a Halifax mall shooting sat on a bench, separated by sheriffs. The woman held a small smile on her face, her chin slightly in the air; the man's blond hair lay over his eyes as he stared straight ahead.

Lindsay Kanittha Souvannarath of Geneva, Ill., 23, and 20-year-old Randall Steven Shepherd of Halifax appeared briefly in Halifax provincial court Tuesday morning and did not look at one another.

Both were arraigned on charges of conspiracy to commit murder until their next appearance on March 6. Crown information submitted to the court shows Shepherd and Souvannarath also now face charges of conspiracy to commit arson, illegal possession of weapons for a purpose dangerous to the public and making a threat through social media.

The RCMP say the accused were planning a mass shooting at the Halifax Shopping Centre on Valentine's Day.

"I would say (it is) very unusual for here; I certainly haven't encountered anything like it," Crown attorney Shauna MacDonald of the special prosecutions unit told reporters outside court.

The Crown information alleges that the offences occurred between Jan. 6 and Valentine's Day and were carried out with James Lee Gamble, a 19-year-old man found dead in his Timberlea home on Friday.

A social-networking website believed to be linked to Gamble features pictures of weapons, Nazi symbols and images relating to the Columbine school shooting.

Souvannarath walked into court first and sat wearing a white sweater. Shepherd wore a black jacket and T-shirt.

A duty counsel lawyer said both needed time to find a defence lawyer and would not be seeking bail. MacDonald said their matters would continue in provincial court until a trial is contemplated.

MacDonald said she had a "very limited" amount of disclosure, but more information is expected to come from police over the next few weeks.

When asked why the case is considered a conspiracy, MacDonald said it means the police allege two people have arrived at an agreement.

"It can be a conversation," MacDonald said.

Although the possibility of a mass shooting in Halifax shocked the city and county over the weekend, MacDonald said the Crown approaches every prosecution the same way, "recognizing the serious nature of the offence."

France tracking many possible sleeper cells

Terror organizations. France aims to intercept the radicalization process and treat jihadi material on the Internet as a criminal act

France is tracking hundreds of people believed to belong to possible sleeper cells for terror organizations like al-Qaida or the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the country's top security official said.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve laid out what has become an increasingly urgent question for European intelligence services: how to trace the moment when someone transforms from a disgruntled criminal or a disaffected citizen into a terrorist, and how to block those first steps toward radicalization.

"Four hundred targets have been identified by our intelligence services that are more or less sleeper cells, affiliated or in relation with al-Qaida-type organizations, that can strike like the Kouachi brothers," Cazeneuve said in an interview late Monday.

Said and Cherif Kouachi were French-born brothers who killed 12 people in Paris on Jan. 7 when they stormed the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo. They were shot dead by police in a confrontation two days later.

Cazeneuve said he wants new measures to give intelligence services more leeway to monitor suspects' electronic communications. He is heading to the United States on Wednesday to try to persuade Internet giants to step up and help stem extremists' ability to use propaganda videos to recruit and indoctrinate new followers.

Facebook, Twitter, Apple and Google — all major vectors for increasingly sophisticated jihadi clips targeting potential followers in the West — will be among his stops in Silicon Valley.

"Ninety per cent of those who commit terrorist acts fall into it after regularly consulting websites or blogs that call for or provoke terrorism," Cazeneuve said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"When you have terrorists who keep a low profile for years and then suddenly decide to act — either to obey an order from a large terrorist organization such as al-Qaida or of their own volition — then you need to be able to monitor them on a long term."

French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve

Kosovo marks 7th anniversary of independence

Top: People gather on Feb. 17, 2008 around the Newborn monument in Pristina. Bottom: Seven years later on Feb. 17, 2015. Kosovo marked a sombre seventh anniversary of independence from Serbia as the mainly ethnic Albanian territory grapples with an exodus triggered by deep economic malaise. ARMEND NIMANI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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VOICES

MY CAT IS ALMOST FAMOUS

4,500 photos, 10,000 Instagram followers and one hell of a cute feline: What Stash the Moustache Cat has taught me about making it on the Internet

Stash the cat has surpassed the 10,000 followers mark on Instagram. ELISHA DACEY/INSTAGRAM

ELISHA DACEY
readers@metronews.ca

I have taken about 4,500 photos of my cat in the past year.

I am not a crazy cat lady. I mean, I love my cats but I never took 4,500 photos of my previous pets. Or my kid. (Well, I might have taken that many of my kid.)

I am the owner of Stash the Moustache Cat. He was an experiment in going viral that's proven that to be almost famous on the Internet, you just need something really remarkable — and a lot of luck. And it helps if it's a cat.

Stash was just your average family pet (with a distinctive moustache marking on his face) in January 2014 when we at Metro decided to see if we could make him go viral.

Cats with moustaches are actually a thing online. They're called Kitlers. This is something I learned over a month of posting his photos on Instagram. When the month was done, Stash had about 1,000 followers. Not bad, but hardly viral.

So I decided to keep going on my own, posting roughly four photos a day of Stash getting belly rubs, freaking out at the patio door over the backyard bunnies and falling off of things.

It's been a year, and Stash has passed the 10,000-follower mark on Instagram. His follower count grew by 2,000 in only one night when another popular Instagram account asked me if it could feature him. His popularity is weird and hilarious to me.

Here's what I've learned:

1. Cat people are obsessed. Some people love Stash as much as they love their own kitties. They get very upset or worried if I don't post enough photos. I once posted a photo of Stash in a carrier and said we were off to the vet. It was time for his annual checkup, and we also shaved him down for the summer.

Not only were people genuinely worried something was wrong with him, I had a few people leave comments about how mad they were that I would shave my cat's fur. Stash is a real part of some of his followers' lives, and yet he's never met them.

2. The online cat community is a bully-free zone. Jerks are not tolerated.

3. When I post, I pretend that Stash is speaking. I can't believe the number of people who talk to him like he's a human.

4. The quality of the photo matters. Good photos always get more likes than mediocre ones.

5. That said, sometimes the mediocre photos get more likes, simply because a well-connected person shares the photo.

6. Stash's formula for success: good photo with mildly amusing caption, and the photo MUST contain the moustache in some way.

The experiment will continue. I will keep posting photos between meetings, in the elevator, on my lunch break, even during my daily conference call with the other Metro editors (sorry, guys).

Stash isn't viral. There are a lot of Internet Kitlers. But we've built a community 10,000 strong. Not bad for a clumsy cat with a moustache.

Elisha Dacey is the managing editor of Metro Winnipeg. Find her @elishadacey and find her cat on Instagram at StashTheMoustacheCat.

Watching the red carpet doesn't make me a bad feminist

MELISSA DUNNE
readers@metronews.ca

With the Academy Awards mere days away, people are talking — and not just about who will take home those little gold statues.

The question "Who are you wearing?" will be asked over and over again on Sunday. I may be a card-carrying feminist but I still love the Oscars pre-show, particularly the inherent snarkiness of the question and the silliness of the red carpet in general. Other feminists disagree.

The "Who are you wearing?" query has become just one example of what some see as a deeply shallow and sexist ritual. The backlash went into overdrive this awards season when comedian Amy Poehler's Smart Girls community Twitter page posted: "The #RedCarpet is open and we want the media to #AskHerMore! Let's go beyond 'who are you wearing?' and ask better questions! #GoldenGlobes."

Um, I have a question: Really? The bad queries are half of the fun. When I'm watching award pre-shows I don't want to hear opinions from men or women on the Keystone XL pipeline. I want to know more about their extravagant outfits. Isn't that the point of the hours-long parade of Chanel and Dior and Armani, anyway? There is a time and a place for everything. The red carpet is the time and place to celebrate the glitz and glamour of Tinseltown, not ask the hard-hitting questions.

There is no denying women tend to get asked more about fashion and diets than their male counterparts. BuzzFeed, with tongue firmly in cheek, found a fun way to make sure the men were also asked some lighter questions before the BAFTA Awards. The men's answers to what they were wearing, if they would twirl, and whether they were donning Spanx, were revealing and hilarious.

And that's the point. The red carpet can be laughable; the questions should be equally so. The time to ask the male directors and producers who still largely control Hollywood some seriously tough questions is after the awards are handed out. My suggestions? Why are women often relegated to playing moms and wives once they hit 30? Can you not promote more than one standard of female beauty? Why are there not more women directing films? What's with the wage gender gap in Hollywood?

Let's #AskHimMore.

I probably risk getting my feminist card revoked for saying this, but I don't think many female stars want to be asked more at these events. These stars are savvy businesspeople choosing to walk the carpet to promote themselves, their projects and, ahem, their brand synergies.

The Oscar-winning actor Charlize Theron, for instance, always looks glorious clad in Dior. Why? Because she has a long-term advertising deal with the French fashion house. She also reportedly demanded equal pay for her upcoming flick The Huntsman after the Sony hack revealed her male co-star, Chris Hemsworth, was getting paid substantially more than her. I bet if asked about the pay discrepancy on a red carpet she would decline comment. Ask about her dress, and surely she'd purr: "J'adore Dior!"

The late, great Joan Rivers is said to have first posed the sartorial query in the '90s. The comedian once defended her ubiquitous and controversial catchphrase, telling Entertainment Weekly, in part: "Other reporters always said, 'I'm not going to ask that. I'm going to ask how (the actors) feel politically!' But actors don't want to hear that!" She was right, for the most part.

Some stars, such as Theron's paramour and two-time Oscar winner Sean Penn, have a penchant for droning on about their political views, whether asked or not. Let's hope someone has the nerve to ask the prickly Penn who he's wearing the next time he's on red carpet.

What could be sillier and snarkier than that?

Melissa Dunne is a Toronto-based freelance writer.

Charlize Theron in Dior at the 2013 Oscars. With a lucrative Dior contract, Theron is probably all too happy to promote what she's wearing on the red carpet, argues Melissa Dunne. GETTY IMAGES FILE

metro

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Makers of 'female Viagra' try again for approval

Flibanserin. FDA holding back because of pill's lacklustre effectiveness and side effects such as fatigue, dizziness and nausea

The makers of a twice-rejected pill designed to boost female libido are resubmitting their drug to American health regulators, following a recent lobbying blitz by politicians, women's groups and consumer advocates aimed at pushing it onto the market.

Sprout Pharmaceuticals said Tuesday it is refiling its application for the drug, flibanserin, adding new information requested by the Food and Drug Administration about how the pill affects driving ability after nearly 10 per cent of women in trials reported sleepiness.

If approved, Sprout's daily pill would be the first drug for women who report a lack of sexual desire, a market that drugmakers have been trying to tap since the blockbuster success of Viagra for men in the late 1990s.

In an effort to break the FDA regulatory logjam, groups sponsored by Sprout and other drugmakers have begun publicizing the lack of a "female Viagra" as a women's rights issue.

"Women deserve equal treatment when it comes to sex," states an online petition to the FDA organized by one group, Even the Score, which garnered 25,000 supporters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sprout Pharmaceuticals, makers of the twice rejected female-sex-drive pill, flibanserin, said Tuesday it is refiling its application. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Market Minute

DOLLAR
80.81¢ (+0.56¢)

TSX
15,284.61 (+19.80)

OIL
$53.53 US (+75¢)

GOLD
$1,208.60 US (-$18.50)

Natural gas: $2.759 US (-4.5¢)
Dow Jones: 18,047.58 (+28.23)

Employment

Bill aims to protect unpaid interns

Parliament is debating an NDP private member's bill that would give unpaid interns workplace standards and safety protections under the Canada Labour Code.

The bill, tabled last spring by Quebec MP Lauren Liu, would ensure that all internships are linked to educational programs and primarily benefit the intern, not the employer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Strong. Museum adds Video Game Hall of Fame

The museum that houses the National Toy Hall of Fame announced Tuesday the creation of the World Video Game Hall of Fame to recognize the impact such games as Pong and Grand Theft Auto have on culture and society.

"Electronic games have changed how people play, learn and connect with each other, including across boundaries of culture and geography," said G. Rollie Adams, president and chief executive of The Strong museum in Rochester, N.Y., where the new hall is located.

The toy hall of fame will provide the model for the video version, which is dedicated to arcade, console, computer, hand-held and mobile games. Anyone will be able to nominate a game, and an internal advisory committee will choose finalists. An annual class of inductees will be chosen by an international selection committee of journalists, scholars and other videogame experts based on four criteria: icon-status, longevity, geographical reach and the influence it has had on the design of other games, entertainment, popular culture and society in general.

Nominations for the inaugural class are being accepted through the end of March.

The Strong's collection includes more than 55,000 video games and related artifacts, along with personal papers and corporate records that document the history of video games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pong, one of the earliest video games, will be one of the inductees in the new World Video Game Hall of Fame. SEAN GALLUP/GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"Electronic games have changed how people play, learn and connect with each other..."

G. Rollie Adams, president and chief executive of The Strong museum

Manitoba Hydro – your energy expert

The Heat Recovery Ventilator (HRV) in your new home

In 2011, The Manitoba Building Code was revised to require all new homes to have a heat recovery ventilator or HRV installed. Good ventilation is important in any home, and an HRV improves air quality and helps avoid such problems as excessive humidity that can cause increased condensation on windows, odours, and stale or stuffy air.

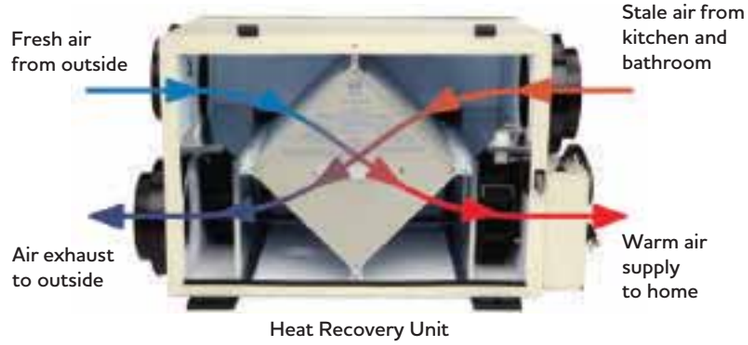
HRVs use fans to exhaust humidity, odours, and carbon dioxide from the home while drawing in fresh air from the outside. In winter, the HRV uses heat from the stale air it exhausts to warm up incoming cold air. That transfer of heat saves you energy and money while improving your indoor air quality. The air exchange also reduces condensation problems by replacing stale, humid air with fresh, dry air from outside.

Continuous operation of an HRV on low speed during Manitoba's cold and dry winter weather can result in humidity levels that may feel uncomfortably low (10-20%) for most people. This continuous operation will also contribute to higher heating bills. Investing in a premium HRV controller and dehumidistat that provides options for automatic recirculation, intermittent or off modes, will provide better control of humidity, comfort and heating costs.

Check with a reputable ventilation contractor to determine if an HRV can be installed in your existing home. The purchase and installation of an HRV is eligible for financing under Manitoba Hydro's Power Smart* Residential Loan.

For more information visit **www.hydro.mb.ca/heating**

Heat Recovery Ventilator (HRV)



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Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Iggy Azalea DAVID LOPERA

Spanish artist big ups A-listers

This should make the debate about body image issues a little more interesting. While famous women suffer punishing workouts to tone up and slim down, a 20-year-old Spanish artist is taking to Photoshop to plump them up. Like, by a lot. David Lopera has been doing custom images for clients making celebrities like Iggy Azalea, Kim Kardashian, Katy Perry and Mila Kunis significantly rounder. And, he tells the Daily Mail, business is booming.

"Men are always writing to me asking if I can make their (celebrity) crushes look a bit fatter," he says. "These women look much better when they're overweight ... Look at my pictures and you will see that big is beautiful."

Katy Perry DAVID LOPERA

All kowtow to the Tao of Kanye

Kanye West has been in rare form lately, between the Grammys and New York Fashion Week. And in his lengthy interview with Style.com's Dirk Standen, he doesn't disappoint. Here, completely free of context, are some brand-new, appropriately epic Kanye quotes, ready to be applied to your own daily teachings so you can live your best life.

• "I dislike the concept of chic being the highest compliment for a human being. I'd rather someone be nice than to be chic."

• "I'm not going to try and act like I was influenced by a f–king dog walking down the street that broke its ankle that I had a heartfelt discussion with. I had a heartfelt discussion with all of these f–king Helmut Lang images that I stared at for so many years. I had a heartfelt discussion with my Tumblr."

• "This audience isn't on my side, anyways. It's the fashion audience. They're not even on their own side."

• "I'm a human being. I've got opinions, I'm not always right, I'm not always on time, I don't always say things in the proper way, but my intentions are always extremely pure. My purpose is extremely just."

• "I won't even call it the runway. What would you call a place where a military brigade stands? It's no longer called the runway for me."

Kanye West GETTY IMAGES

Amber Rose kuts Khloe to the kwik with Kylie kwip

What started out as some pretty decent shade-throwing by Amber Rose over rapper pal Tyga taking up with 17-year-old Kylie Jenner has broken out into an all-out Twitter war. Rose first angered the Kardashian clan by telling Power 105 that Jenner is "a baby, she needs to go to bed at 7 o'clock and relax." Which doesn't seem like such terrible advice, but tallest Kardashian Khloe mounted a tweet-based offensive on Rose. "Please don't worry about my sister who has a career and her s–– together at only 17... Please stop talking about us in interviews, mama. None of us talk about you." There were also some frog and coffee cup emojis thrown in, for some reason.

This is huge, as it quite possibly marks the first time a Kardashian has ever asked someone to not pay attention to them. Rose did keep talking, though, responding to Khloe and invoking older sister Kim with, "I'll be that (little) whore to support my family like (your) older sister is a whore (to) support hers. We're even." And it goes on from there, including some dispute about the difference between a stripper and a prostitute. Rose even tosses in a reference to O.J. Simpson being Khloe's real father. Enjoy! And choose your sides in this skirmish carefully.

Khloe Kardashian and Amber Rose. GETTY IMAGES

Bieber gets a good old-fashioned egging

Justin Bieber GETTY IMAGES

Things are off to a messy start in the promo run-up to Justin Bieber's much-hyped roasting at the behest of Comedy Central next month. In the first video clip for the event, the tiny Canadian terror is pelted in slow-mo with eggs, hearkening back to his previous arrest for doing the same to a neighbour's house, as the video teases, "Watch Justin Bieber learn how poor, defenceless houses feel." Also, can we do something about Bieber's apparent allergy to shirts? I know he put a lot of time into all those tattoos and wants to show them off, but still.

Jessica Williams 'super not right' for Jon's job

In the immediate aftermath of Jon Stewart announcing his departure from The Daily Show, a lot of people across the Internet voiced their support for current Daily Show correspondent Jessica Williams to take over. Well, Williams heard you, but will have to politely decline. "I'm not hosting. Thank you, but I am extremely under-qualified for the job," she tweeted. "I am super not right for it, but there are quite a few people who are. Can't wait to stick around and see what happens."

Jessica Williams GETTY IMAGES

Decoding life at a Canadian spy camp

Series debut. New CBC show X Company depicts agents being trained at WWII espionage school

It's 1942 and a group of Allied agents are training at a top-secret facility — not in Europe, but on the shores of Lake Ontario.

The premise behind the new CBC series X Company stems from a part of Canada's Second World War history that many don't know about, say the stars.

"It really is this thing to be proud of for Canadians," said Dustin Milligan, who was born in Yellowknife and played Ethan Ward on CW's 90210. "In a lot of ways, modern espionage, modern spy craft was developed in Canada."

Debuting Wednesday, X Company centres on Camp X, which was a spy school on the Whitby-Oshawa border.

The facility trained hundreds of secret agents to work behind enemy lines. It also had a state-of-the-art telecommunications centre.

Milligan plays Tom Cummings, an American advertising expert who specializes in propaganda and manipulation. His co-stars include Evelyne Brochu as Aurora Luft, a French-Canadian/Jewish-German journalist who is recruited into Camp X after joining the Resistance in France.

Connor Price plays Harry James, the youngest of the spies who acts as the radio operator and explosives expert. The five agents at the training centre were plucked from their everyday lives to become spies and their vulnerabilities show while they're in the field.

The other spies are played by Jack Laskey and Warren Brown. Other cast members include Flashpoint star Hugh Dillon as the leader of the camp and Lara Jean Chorostecki as the leader of the all-female staff of the telecommunications centre.

Mark Ellis and Stephanie Morgenstern created and wrote the series, which is a Canadian-Hungarian co-production that was shot over three months in Budapest.

Quoted

"They're not perfect and they're not superheroes. They are heroes, though, and to me that's extremely relatable."

Montreal-born Evelyne Brochu, who co-stars on the CBC series X Company. She also played a French scientist on Orphan Back.

In the first episode, the spies are in France. As they embark on a dangerous mission, viewers also see the perspective of the Nazis. "Our show has this really unique way of painting even the guys, seen as the villains, in a light of humanity," said Price, a Toronto native whose credits include the series The Dead Zone and the film Good Luck Chuck.

"You see their backstory, you see their motives — they're even justified in a way. So as you're watching it, you're torn between two sides, as crazy as it is. The viewing experience becomes much more personal as you relate to these real people in this real situation."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Actor Evelyne Brochu plays a journalist who is recruited into Camp X. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

LIFE 3

Twice the fun in the sun

Island hopping.

A trip that combines stops in Dominica and Barbados offers equal parts adventure and relaxation

When the urge to escape the winter grind strikes, and you don't want to just relax on the beach, you need to find a sun destination that also offers a mild dose of adventure. Enter the Caribbean islands of Dominica and Barbados, each with its own allure.

Getting dirty in Dominica

A rugged, hard-to reach, self-proclaimed "nature island" dropped into the Lesser Antilles, Dominica is as far away from the all-inclusive Caribbean experience as you can get. Instead of bands of tranquil beaches crawling with tourists, it's covered with lush rain forest and enough trails to keep you hiking for weeks.

Climb down Wavine Cyrique, a vertical trail of tangled mangrove roots and improvised rope ladders.

You'll quickly learn that Dominica always rewards a struggle. When you reach the bottom, you'll find yourself in a scene straight out of Pirates of the Caribbean with a secluded black sand beach, a waterfall shooting off the cliff into the rough sea and a coconut tree swaying lazily in the breeze.

Dominica is full of small astonishments like that. After scrambling over muddy rocks and wading through rivers for an hour, you'll suddenly find yourself faced with a powerful waterfall emptying into a basin of turquoise water — perfect for swimming. Snorkelling, you'll not only enjoy watching neon fish and sea cucumbers, but thanks to the island's volcanic activity, you are surrounded by sparkling bubbles that give the spot its name: Champagne Reef.

At night, you can curl up in a comfortably furnished yurt at a property called Mermaid's Secret, falling asleep to the calls of crickets and frogs.

But sometimes you need a "vacation from the vacation," as they say. Dominica's isolated natural beauty enchants, but after five days of exploring, your muscles may be tied up in knots and legs criss-crossed with scratches. Before heading back to snow, make time for that perfect beach day by tacking Barbados onto your itinerary.

The beach in Speightstown, Barbados, where Juma's Restaurant is located. PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wavine Cyrique in Dominica is a tangled trail of mangrove roots and improvised rope ladders.

Hikers are rewarded with great sights in Dominica.

Beach on a budget in Barbados

Barbados is on Dominica's flight path (flights also pass through Antigua) and it's also relatively easy on the wallet. Its postcard-perfect beaches are free and public transportation is simple to navigate. Almost every time you step onto the street, a van pulls up, ready to whisk you away.

With a little legwork you can find perfectly secluded beaches in Barbados. Juma's Restaurant, in Speightstown, is an easy favourite. Pool-calm waters, an immaculate stretch of sand and free use of lounge chairs and umbrellas make it the island's best-kept secret. For an inexpensive lunch you can buy a sandwich for $5.

On the other side of the island, try Bottom Bay. With its dramatic cliffs and foamy waters, it's clear to see why it's popular for fashion shoots. There are no restaurants nearby, so pack a picnic, but you can buy a pina colada in a fresh coconut on-site. Still, there's a time and place for crowds in the Caribbean. On Friday nights, tourists and locals alike descend on Oistins Fish Fry, an outdoor bazaar of restaurant shacks that fix up overflowing plates of fish, plantains and macaroni for $15. As the night goes on, the music turns up, more locals join in, and the stage becomes a freewheeling dance scene where everybody shows off their moves.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go...

- **Dominica.** Wavine Cyrique, located south of Rosalie. Mermaid's Secret, in Rosalie, mermaids-secret.co.uk, $89-$99 a night. Champagne Reef Dive & Snorkel: champagnereef.com
- **Barbados.** Juma's Restaurant, No. 2 West End, Queen Street, Speightstown, jumasrestaurant.com. Oistins Fish Fry: barbados.org/oistins-fish-fry.htm

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Win the working game by remembering their name

Can you think of anything more flattering than when someone you met for a split second remembers who you are? ISTOCK

Career. Six tips to help you recall all of your professional acquaintances

LAUREN MARINIGH
TalentEgg.ca

Meeting person after person at a networking event, your first day at work, or even in a group of new friends, can be overwhelming. Many individuals say they have a hard time keeping track of names and faces.

But how great is it when you bump into an acquaintance and they remember your name?

It instantly makes you feel more connected to that person, even if you've only met them once before.

Moreover, remembering names can make a connection all the more personal and earn you serious brownie points when you're competing with countless others for a job.

It turns out that forgetting names is actually extremely common.

When we meet people, there are often multiple distractions — it's easy to forget to actually listen and absorb their name when you're taking in everything else about them.

Here are some tips and tricks you help you remember names while you're networking every time:

Repeat the person's name as soon as they say it.
If someone introduces themselves as Julie, say something like, "Hi Julie, great to meet you."

Throughout the conversation, continue mentioning their name. You can do this by asking a question and adding their name: — for example, "So Julie, whereabouts do you work?"

Take their business card
If someone offers you their business card, remember to read it after your interaction. Seeing someone's name in print often helps you not only to recall their name, but their position or title. If someone doesn't offer you their business card right away, then offer them yours to prompt an exchange.

Make it memorable
When you first meet someone, ask them a few questions and see if you can associate their answers with their name. Try an alliteration — for example, Sarah might work in Sales and like playing hockey, or Martin might work in Marketing and enjoy singing.

(Bonus points if you can remember their names, where they work and a hobby and then use that in an introduction to someone else).

Remember where they are, and repeat their names in your head
This is one trick I've personally found to be effective in remembering names.

If you're standing in a group or sitting at a table, chances are you'll start at one end of the group and introduce yourself going around in one direction.

Take a moment during the conversation to go around the group and repeat their names in your head.

If all else fails...

If you still can't remember their name, just ask.

- Forgetting someone's name, or having someone forget your name is inevitable in situations where meeting multiple people. Be tactful and say something along the lines of, "I'm sorry, but I didn't catch your name," or "My apologies, could you repeat your name for me? I'm not sure I heard it right."

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Eggs, sausage and potatoes belong together

Brunch. This Spanish Chorizo Tortilla, which is Spain's version of an Italian frittata, makes use of pantry staples for an easy and filling meal

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

FLASH FOOD

From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

This recipe serves six to eight. EMILY RICHARDS

I love trying new things in the kitchen. It is fulfilling to get creative and share my passion of food with people.

That passion was my inspiration for this Spanish Chorizo Tortilla, which is the Spanish version of an Italian frittata.

This recipe is easy enough for a weeknight meal to be served up with a crisp salad, but versatile enough to serve for brunch with family and friends.

Look for chorizo sausage in the grocery store where other cured sausages are sold. You can find mild or hot varieties.

Don't have enough eggs? Use six eggs and half a cup (125 ml) of 10% cream instead of the eight called for in the recipe.

To ovenproof a nonstick skillet that has a wooden or plastic handle, simply wrap it in foil before putting it into the oven.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp (25 ml) extra virgin olive oil
- 4 small yellow fleshed potatoes (about 1 lb/500 g), cut into 1/2 inch (1 cm) pieces
- Half small red onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 pkg (250 g) chorizo sausage, sliced
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) chopped fresh Italian parsley
- 8 eggs
- 1 tsp (5 ml) paprika
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) each salt and pepper
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) shredded Manchego cheese (optional)

Directions

1. In a large ovenproof nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat and the cook potatoes, red onion and garlic for 5 minutes, stirring often.

2. Add broth, reduce heat to medium-low and cover and cook for about 10 minutes or until potatoes are fork tender.

3. Uncover and add chorizo and parsley and cook, stirring for 2 minutes.

4. In a large bowl, whisk together eggs, paprika, salt and pepper and pour into skillet. Increase heat to medium and cook lifting edge with rubber spatula letting runny egg go to the bottom for about 3 minutes or until bottom is light golden and sides are starting to set.

5. Place skillet in 400 F (200 C) oven and bake for about 10 minutes or until knife inserted in centre comes out clean.

6. Sprinkle the dish with Manchego cheese if using and broil the Tortilla for about 2 minutes or until it golden on top.

†Subject to credit approval. To be eligible, patients must complete the Custom LASIK procedure on both eyes by March 31, 2015. Cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. *Prices are subject to change without prior notice and vary based on prescription strength. Applicable on a procedure for both eyes only. Other conditions may apply.

A pharmacy in your pantry

Sick? Maybe what you need to feel better is what's in your kitchen

JACQUELINE KOVACS
For Metro

Has a cold or flu got you feeling too miserable to even go to the drug store for some over-the-counter meds?

If so, just shuffle to your kitchen, where you can find ingredients to create your own soothing remedy.

Yes, there really is something to it. Have some chicken soup when you're sick. SHUTTERSTOCK

A dose of green tea will keep you hydrated and give your body antioxidants. SHUTTERSTOCK

Did you know

It's called "the common cold" for a reason — it's the most common ailment in the world. Some 200 types of viruses cause the common cold, and experts estimate that by age 75, most of us have spent a total of two years coughing and sneezing.

Honey

Who needs cough syrup when you've got honey? Studies have shown this sweet spread to be just as effective as dextromethorphan, the cough suppressant commonly used in over-the-counter cough medicine.

Mix honey with hot water and lemon and it'll soothe your throat, too.

Chicken soup

"There is total validity to chicken soup to help fight colds and flu," says Bryce Wylde, alternative health expert and medical director at P3 Health in Toronto, "but it really has to be true chicken soup with real chicken stock."

Green tea

A steaming cup of green tea not only helps keep you hydrated, which Wylde says is key when battling a seasonal bug, but it will also give your weary body a nice dose of antioxidants.

This will help neutralize the free radicals that come along with colds and the flu. Adding a squeeze of lemon to your tea, says Wylde, boosts your brew with limonene and a hit of vitamin C.

Mustard

Loosen congestion with a mustard plaster. Combine one part mustard powder with two parts flour, and add just enough water to make a paste.

Spread the mixture into a tea towel, fold the towel in half and apply to your chest — never put the plaster directly on your skin. Check regularly to make sure your skin doesn't get irritated.

Salt

Relieve and help banish your sore throat by gargling with 1/2 teaspoon of salt dissolved in a glass of warm water a few times a day. Saltwater gargles can also help you get rid of phlegm.

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Manitoba skip Jennifer Jones watches her shot as lead Dawn McEwen, right, and second Jill Officer sweep during Tuesday's afternoon draw against Quebec at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Moose Jaw, Sask. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jones rock solid six matches into Scotties

Curling. Unbeaten Winnipeg rink has outscored the opposition 51-24

Manitoba's Jennifer Jones is showing why many consider her the skip to beat at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

She's winning close games when she needs to and is blowing out opponents, too. Jones and her team remained unbeaten Tuesday with a comfortable 9-3 victory over Quebec's Lauren Mann at Mosaic Place.

"We find that everyone always brings their best game against us," said third Kaitlyn Lawes. "It's exciting because it keeps us on our toes and we have to be ready for every single game that we play out here."

The Winnipeg-based team has outscored the opposition 51-24 over their six victories. Ontario's Julie Hastings gave Jones a test in their opener, and an extra end was required for an 8-7 win over Team Canada's Rachel Homan on Monday night.

Jones hit the clutch draw to the button for the victory over the two-time defending Scotties champion.

"I wouldn't want anyone else throwing that last rock," Lawes said. "She's amazing in those pressure situations. She's just so talented and she has so much experience to draw on. She just loves to play and she loves playing for that butterfly feeling in those big moments."

The loss ended Homan's 22-game winning streak at this event. Jones was the last skip to beat Homan at the Scotties, topping her at the 2013 event in Kingston, Ont. Homan got her revenge by beating Jones in the final that year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Perfect record on the line

Alberta's Val Sweeting was also unbeaten after nine draws. She put her 5-0 mark on the line against B.C.'s Patti Knezevic on Tuesday evening.

Court

Biogenesis 'doctor' sentenced to 4 years in prison

The former owner of a Florida medical clinic who posed as a doctor and illegally supplied steroid injections and other performance-enhancing drugs to professional baseball players and even high school athletes was sentenced Tuesday to four years in a federal prison.

Anthony Bosch — who choked back tears in court and said the clinic was a legitimate business gone awry — sought a more lenient term because of his co-operation in the investigation, but U.S. District Judge Darrin Gayles refused. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hernandez shown dismantling his phone in video

Jurors in the murder trial of former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez on Tuesday were shown surveillance video of him dismantling his phone outside a police station a day after the killing and making calls on his lawyer's phone.

"He's using one phone, either texting or calling, and the other one is on his lap, apart," said North Attleborough Police Det. Michael Elliott.

Hernandez had been asked to go there by police who went to his home after finding in victim Odin Lloyd's pocket a key to a Chevrolet Suburban that Hernandez had rented. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scheifele rewarding Jets for taking chance on him

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Ronnie Shuker
winnipeg@metronews.ca

The Evander Kane deal proved Kevin Cheveldayoff isn't averse to taking a risk. He hasn't taken many in his tenure as Jets general manager but he did take a small one in his first player personnel move. And it looks like he could finally be reaping the rewards.

Mark Scheifele was a bit of a surprise selection when Winnipeg made him its first draft pick (seventh overall) after the city got its NHL franchise back in 2011. Sean Couturier was still on the draft board despite being projected to go as high as second overall behind Ryan Nugent-Hopkins. He had put up back-to-back 96-point seasons in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, but as six teams passed on him at the draft, he seemingly fell right into the Jets' lap at No. 7.

But Winnipeg had done its due diligence, and Cheveldayoff had been convinced to take Scheifele on the basis of his scouts and the ringing endorsement from former Jets superstar Dale Hawerchuk, who had coached Scheifele with the Barrie Colts of the Ontario Hockey League.

Player comparison

Fenwick-close ratings:

- Mark Scheifele — 54.2%
- Sean Couturier — 40.1%

When Couturier made the jump into the NHL as an 18-year-old with Philadelphia, who took him eighth overall, it looked like Cheveldayoff and Co. had made the wrong move. Scheifele lasted just seven games with Winnipeg before being sent back to Barrie. He lasted only four games the next season and was returned to Barrie again.

While Scheifele was riding the buses in junior, Couturier was living the first-class life as a teenager and playing well as a checking centre with the Flyers. He managed a modest 17 goals and 42 points in 123 games over those two years but he didn't look out of place in the NHL. He'd proved he could play with the big boys, particularly defensively.

Over the past two seasons, however, the scales between the two players have been balancing out. Last season, Couturier had 13 goals and 39 points in 82 games, while Scheifele put up nearly identical numbers (13 and 34) in just 63 games. This season, Couturier has four more goals than Scheifele, but Scheifele has six more points.

Scheifele's development has been slow but steady, while Couturier's has been more like a big leap followed by a plateau. More than likely, they will end up being comparable NHL players, though Cheveldayoff does have the added benefits of keeping Scheifele on an entry-level deal two years longer and extending his eligibility for unrestricted free agency one more year.

Either way, Scheifele is slowly but surely showing the Jets that their patience is paying off.

2015 Ford Fusion Energi

- **Type.** FWD, four-door, mid-size, plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV)
- **Engine.** 2.0-litre I4/ Permanent Magnet AC (195 combined output).
- **Transmissions.** CVT automatic.
- **Price.** $39,999/$48,939.

Market position

• One of the most fuel-efficient midsize sedans you can buy; rated at 2.7 L/100 km equivalent combined gas and electric.
• $9,000 more than a comparably equipped "non-plug-in" Fusion Hybrid.
• Appealing to those who need/want full EV mode for short trips, but also need/want a vehicle for longer trips, without range anxiety.

Points

• Powertrain similar to Fusion Hybrid, except for larger capacity lithium-ion battery pack, which takes up half the trunk.
• Electric-only top speed is more than highway-capable at 137 km/h.
• Electric-only range with a fully charged battery is about 30 kilometres.

The Fusion Energi qualifies for several substantial provincial green car rebates.

Notable features

• Standard MyFord Mobile mobile app to remotely monitor charging status.

• Plug-in port features cool-blue light ring that pulses when charging.

• Top-shelf Titanium model features 10-way power driver and passenger seats, inflatable rear seat belts, and super classy 17-inch aluminum wheels.

Ford's plug-in hybrid bristles with tech

PHOTOS: MIKE GOETZ

Review. Ford Fusion Energi works as a hybrid, EV, and as a totally usable and good-looking sedan

MIKE GOETZ
drive@metronews.ca

Plug-in hybrids have yet to develop an identifiable personality and/or critical following. To most of us, they are little more than technical curiosity.

But they offer something neither a regular hybrid nor a full EV can deliver: You get to decide how much of the EV religion you want to partake of — plug in and turn on if you want to; plug out and turn off if you're not feeling it.

Truth be known, I wasn't exactly feeling it during the week of our test with the 2015 Ford Fusion Engergi (top-shelf Titanium trim level), because frigid February temperatures robbed about a third of the potential 30-kilometre range available in the Energi's lithium ion battery pack after a full night's charge.

And to get that charge, I had to run a very long electrical cord through the snow from a back-of-the-house outlet. To top it off, gas was cheap that week. Nonetheless, I plugged in and felt good about it.

It's entirely possible to drive the Energi normally so it will deplete its electrical charge before firing up its gas engine and retreating to normal hybrid mode. The Energi can go quite fast — 137 km/hr — in pure electric mode.

In a regular hybrid, you might get two to three kilometres of pure EV mode, so the gas engine kicks in before you've even figured out your radio selection. But the Energi gives you enough EV range for a total EV commute (if it's not too long), and for a real EV experience, that smooth, silent, and (virtually) carbon-free propulsion which feels like The Future.

If you are of the opinion that cars are already too computerized, this might not be your ride.

It's other main party trick is that it also gives you everything the normal Fusion does, namely terrific looks, real five-passenger seating, and excellent ride dynamics, though you do feel the extra weight of that bigger battery, and overall power is not overwhelming.

Inside is a full complement of switches and information displays, and then some, to keep you abreast of charging, depletion, range, regenerative braking, etc. There is even a coaching function to help leverage EV modes. After a bit of initial tech shock, you start to explore the functions and see that it will still be possible to be the master of your domain, without resorting to screaming and/or manual consulting.

The only downsides appear to be cost, which can be partially overcome with provincial green car rebates, and a trunk dominated by the battery pack. Taking two other hockey pals to our weekly pick-up game meant two hockey bags had to go in the back seat; the trunk only held one. On the way back, we mutually decided that hockey bags really need to go in the trunk.

Compare

1 Toyota Prius Plug-in
Base price: $37,425
Less electric-only range, proven performer.

2 Chevrolet Volt
Base price: $39,995
All-new 2nd-gen 2016 Volt coming later this year.

3 2016 Mitsubishi Outlander Plug-in
Base price: TBA
Best-selling PHEV in Europe comes here next year.

Demographics play into new car features

Driving Force. Ford is tracking worldwide trends in or to build technology for universal needs

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

What does it take to build a car that people want to buy?

Along with the mechanical components, automakers also look at non-automotive things, including how different generations react to such diverse items as food, phones, and health care.

Ford recently released its third annual report on trends, which it uses to try to understand the needs of different buyers, including the emerging Generation Z.

"It's really a discussion starter and a primer for brainstorming," says Sheryl Connelly, Ford's global trends and futuring manager.

"I'm often asked if you can draw a direct line from a trend to a new feature, but it's not always that linear.

"You can use this many ways, and it could lead to new ideas, but more commonly it becomes part of the business case of why something should be added to a car."

A major issue with vehicles is that they can take three years or more from concept to marketplace, while consumer trends and preferences can change dramatically in that time.

Vehicle companies are often racing to keep up with ever-changing trends in technology. CONTRIBUTED

"We try to imagine the future that has yet to be imagined by anyone else, and that's where we use tools like tracking global trends to understand how things could change," Connelly says.

"I'll try to identify a trend and determine if it has staying power."

It's especially difficult to build and market a car that appeals to multiple generations. Baby boomers saw a car as their gateway to adulthood, Connelly says, while for millennials, cellphones give them freedom and access.

In addition to its own work, Ford is reaching out to external collaborators to come up with new apps for vehicle infotainment systems, including a one that sends a text to everyone in the driver's social circle asking them not to send any messages until they receive confirmation that the driver is at his or her destination.

Carmakers don't just look at the market where they're designing and building a car, but rather at society worldwide to see what the future may hold.

They also have to consider an aging population: Every seven seconds in North America, someone turns 65.

"You think about how reduced response time, impaired vision and limited range of motion could affect how we engineer the vehicles," Connelly says.

"But while we might have been inspired for these by aging drivers, we would never market it that way. We use universal design so it appeals to all drivers of all ages and physical conditions."

History of innovation

- In 2007, Ford was the first automaker to participate in the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.
- Before a feature is added, it has to prove its worth to consumers and remain within the vehicle's development budget.
- Planners look at social, technological, economic, environmental and political trends, known as STEEP.

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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
There's an air of mystery about you right now, and others are having a hard time working out what you are up to. Chances are you're not up to much, but it amuses you to have them think otherwise.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Focus on your dreams and wishes and don't worry if they seem a bit far-fetched. Today's new moon makes all things possible, so aim high.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
The sun's move into the career area of your chart today means you can win friends and influence people, if you make the effort.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Should you stay quiet on an issue you have strong opinions about, just to keep things calm? No, you should not. Speak up and let the world know what you believe.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
If your sixth sense tells you that someone is not to be trusted you must not ignore it. Err on the side of caution.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
As the sun moves into the relationship area of your chart today you will need to start working more closely with certain individuals. In the long term it will be worth it.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Try not to push yourself quite so hard over the next few days. You can save a lot of time and energy by learning from other people's mistakes.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The sun moves into the most dynamic area of your solar chart today, marking the start of a much more upbeat phase in just about every area.

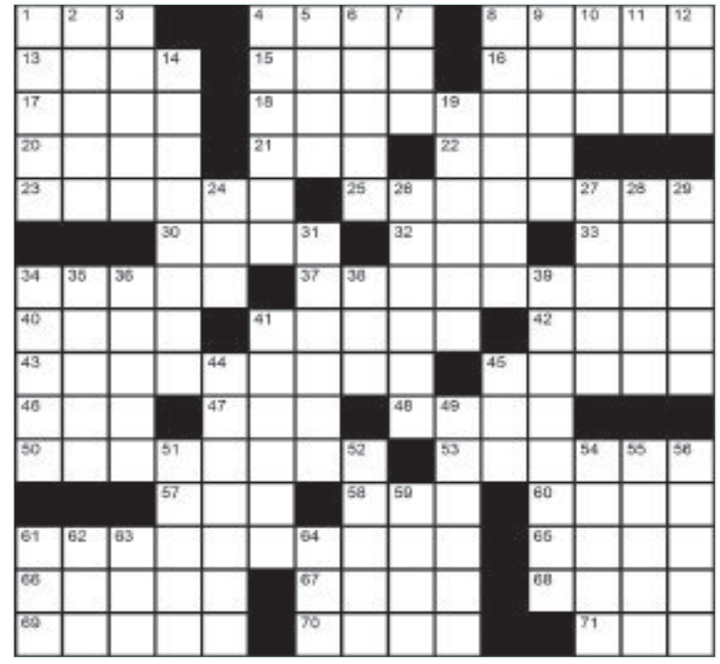
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The cosmic changes now taking place will help you get to grips with issues that have been causing you grief. Time to move on.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Aim to be on the move today because it is the people you meet along the way who will make things happen for you.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
It will pay you to be friendly to everyone you meet today, even those who have not always been friendly to you in the past. Your most pressing concern now is to make some extra money.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a hugely important day for you. Not only is there a new moon, but the sun's move into your sign means a new start is possible. How and where in your life would you like to wipe the slate clean?

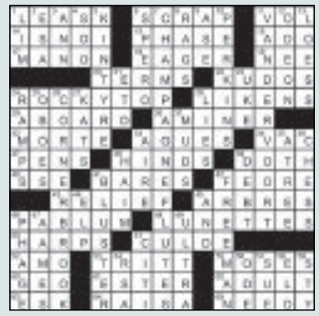
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. English horn, __ anglais
4. Land measure, e.g.
8. Mr. Nicholson's
13. With: French
15. Old Testament twin
16. Mixtures
17. Biblical peak
18. Quebec municipality on Lac-Saint-Pierre
20. Mr. Hershiser
21. Pup's bark
22. Palm's place, puny-ly
23. I __ __ Pieces
25. Crystal __, Juno-winning country singer
30. Cut _ __ (Dance)
32. One: Spanish
33. Poet's "atop"
34. Glad
37. Online shopper's selecting-stuff button: 3 wds.
40. Regrettably
41. Self-respect
42. Mr. Carrey's
43. Governor General of Canada spouse's title, __ Consort
45. Salon product
46. Fair-hiring letters
47. Hole-punching tool
48. British singer Ms. Henderson
50. Hall of Fame's new member
53. New __ (Big Apple denizen)
57. Feminine pronoun
58. Basic learning, informally
60. Bout ender, informally
61. King found in that parking lot in England in 2012: name + Roman Numeral
65. Poet Mr. Pound
66. Grande __, Quebec City's popular street
67. Australian band
68. Transportation mode
69. Bagpipes sound
70. Teas: French
71. Uncle on Family Ties

Down
1. __ __ soup (Pantry item)
2. Turn ___ new leaf
3. Ms. Wilson
4. Bachman-Turner Overdrive song: 2 wds.
5. Mr. Morales
6. Bivouacs
7. Q. "Is '__' _ French pronoun?" A. "Oui."
8. Face/Off (1997) director: 2 wds.
9. Saskatchewan village
10. U.S. President, to the mil.
11. __-i-Noor Diamond
12. Compass dir.
14. Slump
19. Singer/actress Ms. Moore
24. Attempt
26. Football formation
27. What stuffy rooms have in them: 2 wds.
28. Skin layer
29. Skilled at crafts
31. Swish mouthwash
34. __ _ Told You Lately
35. In the Skin of _ __ (Novel by Canadian author Michael Ondaatje)
36. Walked nervously
38. Day: Spanish
39. _._. __ (Pamela Anderson's Baywatch role)
41. It looks like matte silver
44. Celebrity cook Ms. Ray
45. __-mo replay
49. Music and __ (2007)
51. Movies attendant
52. Actor, __ von Stroheim
54. Canadian Heritage River in Nunavut
55. High nest (var. sp.)
56. Willy Wonka creator Mr. Dahl
59. Travel by horse
61. Univ. dorm supervisors
62. Variety
63. Gladiator's 151
64. Info, for short

Yesterday's Crossword

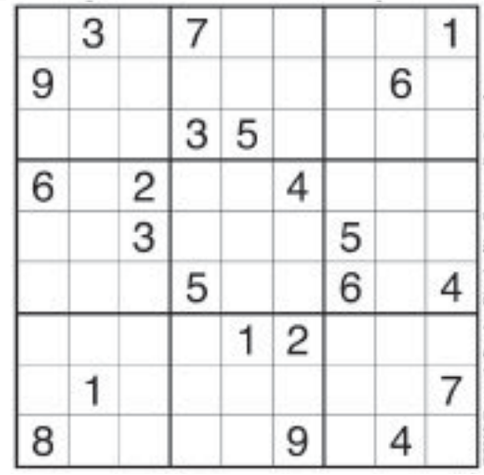


Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



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Yesterday's Sudoku

1	4	7	9	5	6	8	3	2
6	3	5	1	2	8	4	7	9
2	8	9	3	7	4	6	1	5
9	6	4	2	1	3	5	8	7
7	1	3	8	4	5	2	9	6
8	5	2	6	9	7	3	4	1
5	7	6	4	3	1	9	2	8
4	9	8	7	6	2	1	5	3
3	2	1	5	8	9	7	6	4

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GLS model shown♦

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HWY: 6.7L/100 KM
CITY: 9.7L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown♦

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HWY: 9.8L/100 KM
CITY: 12.9L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown♦

2015 SANTA FE SPORT 2.4L FWD

CASH PURCHASE PRICE: $23,067‡

INCLUDES $3,832 IN FREE TRADE BONUSΩ

INCLUDES A 60-MONTH LIMITED WARRANTY††!

HWY: 9.3L/100 KM
CITY: 11.6L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown♦

2015 TUCSON GL FWD

CASH PURCHASE PRICE: $18,102‡

INCLUDES $3,897 IN FREE TRADE BONUSΩ

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®/™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. ‡Cash price of $9,367/$10,867/$23,067/$18,102 available on all new 2015 Accent 4-Door L Manual/Elantra Sedan L Manual/Santa Fe Sport 2.4L FWD/Tucson GL FWD models and includes price reductions of $300/$600/$0/$0. Prices include fees, levies and all applicable charges (excluding GST/PST). Prices exclude Delivery and Destination charges of $1,595/$1,595/$1,795/$1,760, registration, insurance, PPSA, license fees and dealer admin. fees of up to $499. Fees may vary by dealer. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, PD.E. and a full tank of gas. ΩFree trade bonuses are calculated against the vehicle's starting price. Free trade bonus of up to $3,882/$4,532/$3,832/$3,897 available on all new 2015 Accent 4-Door L Manual/Elantra L Manual/Santa Fe Sport 2.4L FWD/Tucson GL FWD models. Price adjustments applied before taxes. Offer cannot be combined or used in conjunction with any other available offers. Offer is non-transferable and cannot be assigned. No vehicle trade-in required. ♦Prices of models shown: 2015 Accent GLS Auto/Elantra Limited/Santa Fe Sport Limited AWD/Tucson Limited AWD are $20,930/$26,930/$41,580/$35,895. Prices include Delivery and Destination charges of $1,595/$1,595/$1,795/$1,760, levies and all applicable charges (excluding GST/PST). Prices exclude registration, insurance, PPSA, license fees and dealer admin. fees of up to $499. Fees may vary by dealer. ▼Fuel consumption for new 2015 Accent GLS (HWY 6.3L/100KM; City 8.9L/100KM); 2015 Elantra Limited (HWY 6.7L/100KM; City 9.7L/100KM); 2015 Santa Fe Sport Limited AWD (HWY 9.8L/100KM; City 12.9L/100KM); 2015 Tucson Limited AWD (HWY 9.3L/100KM; City 11.6L/100KM); are based on Manufacturer Testing. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. ΔThe Hyundai Accent/Elantra received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among small/compact cars in the proprietary J.D. Power 2014 Initial Quality Study℠ (IQS). Study based on responses from 86,118 new-vehicle owners, measuring 239 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Propriety study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2014. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ▲Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). ‡†♦ΩOffers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. Visit www.hyundaicanada.com or see dealer for complete details. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.